

# The Northfield Press

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NORTHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1945

## Gilbert Evans Potts Killed In Service

Another local young man, twice reported wounded in action, has been reported by the War Department, as killed in action February 3 in the Strasbourg area, while serving with the Seventh Army under General Patch. He is Pfc. Gilbert Evans Potts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis M. Potts of this town and husband of Deborah Spillings Potts of North Andover. He was born in Orange April 11, 1920, and came to Northfield with his parents. He was a graduate of Mount Hermon School in 1938 and of Colby College in 1942, where he majored in social service work and won a scholarship at Boston University.

Pfc Potts entered the service in June, 1942, and had served in North Africa, Sicily and France. He had been overseas two years, was wounded in Italy and later in France and had been awarded the Purple Heart and Oak Leaf Cluster. He was a member of the local Congregational Church.

Surviving are his wife, his parents and a sister, Mrs. Beverly Fuller. A memorial service was held Sunday afternoon, February 25, at the Congregational Church and attended by many friends. Rev. Joseph W. Reeves officiated. Surely he gave his life to his country, but in his passing, this community has lost a young man of promise and exemplary character. Friends are saddened in deep sorrow.

## Revival Meetings

The local Free Methodist Church, Rev. Helen Bassett, pastor, is holding a series of revival meetings in the Grange Hall, which will be continued through March 8. The evangelist is the Rev. Herbert J. Gabriel, who will have an important message at each gathering. The public is cordially invited to attend.

## Card of Thanks

We wish to express our thanks to all our friends and to the Northfield Hotel Co. for their many expressions of sympathy and the beautiful floral tribute sent to our son, Bernard, at his death.

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## Legion Oratory Event Won By Rua Jones

The annual oratorical contest held by the local Post of the American Legion was held recently at Alexander Hall, after a postponement and participated in by students of the high school. After the essays were rendered, the first prize was given to Rua Jones for her "Challenge to America." Kenneth Walker was second with "The Sovereignty of the People." Honorable mention went to June Cota and Neil Churchill for their essays. Others who took part were Norma Leach and Phyllis Ruhl.

The judges were John Baldwin, Gysbert Bouma and Judson Stent of Mount Hermon faculty and the awards were given by Sidney Given in behalf of the Legion. The Glee Club of the school under the direction of Mrs. L. P. Goodspeed provided musical selections. Miss Jones, who is a senior, was the winner of last year's contest and will compete further in a county contest for participation in the state contest.

## Mrs. Laura Doolittle

Mrs. Laura Ann (Smith) Doolittle, wife of Miles W. Doolittle, died suddenly Sunday, February 25, at her home on the Hinsdale Road just beyond the Northfield town line. She was born in Winchester, January 10, 1875, the daughter of Pardon and Mary Jane (Liscom) Smith. She was educated in the schools of that town, and after graduating from the high school, taught there for several years. She was married to Mr. Doolittle August 30, 1899, and they made their home in South Hinsdale for their entire married life.

She was well known to many here and leaves many friends who mourn her loss. Mr. Doolittle is an employee of the Northfield schools. Besides her husband, she is survived by one daughter, Miss Olive Doolittle, a teacher in Northampton and one brother, William G. Smith of Hinsdale. Funeral services were held at the Hammond Funeral home in Hinsdale on Tuesday following with Rev. Howard E. Hood officiating, pastor of the Congregational Church. Entombment was in Pine Grove Cemetery at Hinsdale.

## The Next Fortnightly To Hear About Birds

The next meeting of the Fortnightly will be held at Alexander Hall on Friday afternoon, March 16, when the guest speaker will be Alexander Hall of the Massachusetts Audubon Society. His subject will be "Bird Study as a Family Hobby" and hearers in many other communities have listened with much interest and appreciation.

The hostesses for the tea will be Mrs. Horace H. Morse and Mrs. Charles D. Streeter. At the last session of the Fortnightly there was provided a musical program in which Miss Helen Webster, a pupil of Miss Fate Richardson of the Northfield School for Girls, rendered a number of most entertaining piano selections.

At the business session presided over by the president, Mrs. George Sheldon, the nominating committee was announced, consisting of Mrs. Carl C. Compton, Mrs. Allen H. Wright and Mrs. Edgar J. Livingston, to bring in a list of nominations for officers to be chosen at the annual meeting on April 27. The tea hostesses for the last meeting were Mrs. Joseph Field, Mrs. Edward Morgan and Mrs. Wayne B. Wells.

## Mr. Alexander Speaks To Historical Dinner

Fred Alexander, well-known member of the Alexander family, will be the guest speaker at the meeting of the Historical Society, which will be held at the Bronson Inn Saturday evening, March 24, when a dinner will be served. The meeting of the society usually held the first Tuesday evening of the month will be postponed to this date. Mr. Alexander is an authority on the Alexander family of Northfield, which has had a noteworthy part in the town's history. He is writing a book on the subject and has already presented the society three chapters of the manuscript. Mr. Alexander has familiarized himself with the part played by this community in the French and Indian wars as well as our local activity in the Revolutionary War and will refer to the same in his address. He has contributed many interesting mementoes to the museum of the society. A most valuable talk will be provided and members who expect to attend should so notify the president, Miss Elsie Scott, East Northfield.

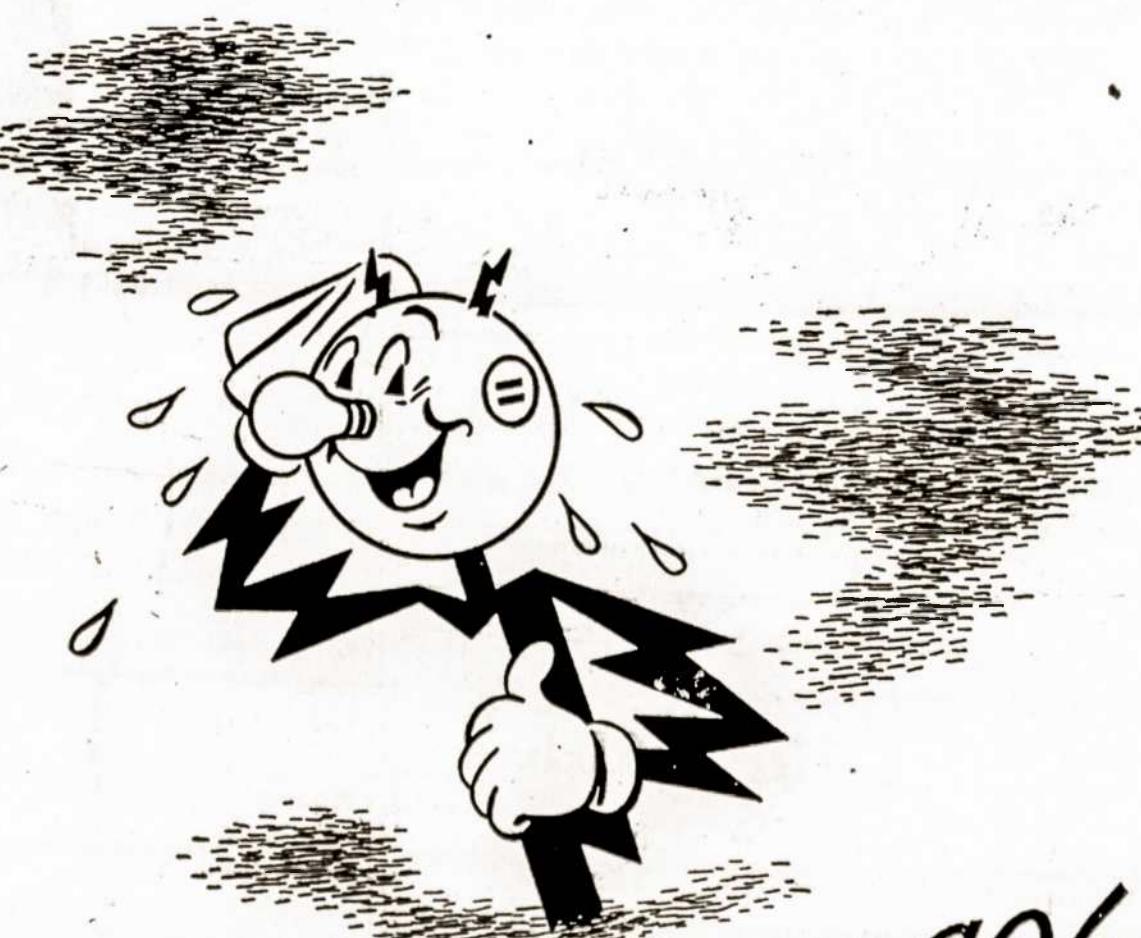
The town of Vernon has erected an Honor Roll at the Town Hall which contains over 50 names of those in the service.

## Help Council Service Of Red Cross Here

The Camp and Hospital Council service of the American Red Cross has been organized in the county by an efficient committee and Mrs. Harry L. Bill of Greenfield is the county chairman. Representing Northfield is Mrs. A. Gordon Moody and at present the committee is lending its effort to the station hospital at Westover Field, the Naval Convalescent Hospital at Springfield and the Veterans Hospital at Northampton. Important requirements are made by the sick and wounded and the committee members turn to their own communities in endeavoring to meet the appeals.

Mrs. Moody could now use several radios, particularly small bedside radios, some victrolas and good records, also books and games. Any person in this community, who is willing to aid in the matter, can communicate with Mrs. Moody by phoning her at the hotel.

Sgt. Leonard Barnes with the army is now stationed at Richmond, Va., and his brother, Seaman (2c) Bernard Barnes, is with the Navy in the South Pacific. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Barnes of West Northfield.



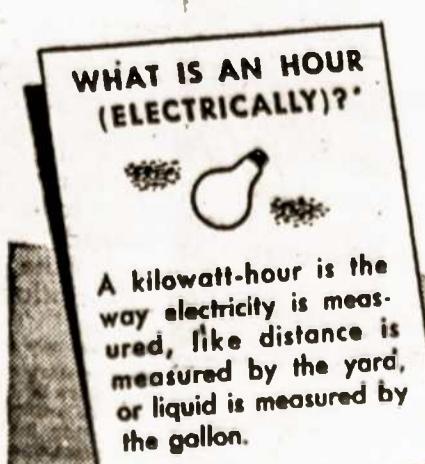
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I worked a major part of these hours in war plants. Some of them went to stores and offices. And a good part of my hours were spent in homes, doing dozens of "essential" jobs.

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You tell what you are by the friends you seek,  
By the very manner in which you speak,  
By the way you employ your leisure time,  
By the use you make of dollar and dime.

You tell what you are by the way you walk,

By the things of which you delight to talk,  
By the manner in which you bear defeat,  
By so simple a thing as how you eat,  
By the books you choose from the well filled shelf,  
In these ways and more you tell on yourself.  
So there really isn't a bit of sense  
In any effort at false pretense.

### "Narrow Is the Way" New Book Review

Northfield has made a significant contribution this week to the religious literature of our times with the publication on Tuesday of a new book of sermons by Dr. William E. Park, president of the Northfield Schools. "Narrow Is the Way" is Dr. Park's first book and is truly a Northfield product since many of the sermons were first preached to the boys and girls at Mount Hermon and Northfield and then rewritten and preached in other schools and colleges.

Dr. Park is widely recognized as one of the most effective preachers of the present time and these sermons are among his best. They are short, direct, and written with a fine sense of humor. Intended primarily for young people, this book is nevertheless challenging and inspiring reading for adults, especially those who are anxiously seeking to understand the needs and thinking of young people in these chaotic times.

Dr. Carl Heath Kopf, minister of the Mount Vernon Church in Boston, describes this new volume as "the best Lenten reading I have found outside the Bible itself." Prof. Halford E. Luccock of the Yale University Divinity School, one of America's outstanding preachers says, "This is just a loud and long cheer from the grandstand over the book of sermons, 'Narrow Is the Way.' As I read it I think how bigotted is the old commandment, 'Thou shalt not steal.' Consequently having read the book two weeks ago, I have stolen from it the last two Sundays, and contrary to the usual procedure several people kept awake."

In his introduction Dr. Park says, "No one can overestimate the important place of the interdenominational school and college chapel in the religious life of America. It is perhaps here that the cause of Christian unity and ecumenicity is making its greatest advance." It is because this book comes to us so directly and so authentically from the American school and college chapel that it is of such great importance.

Frank W. Pearsall.

Editor's Note: The book is a Macmillan publication and sells for \$2.

### International Weekend

The weekend of February 23 the campus of the Northfield School for Girls was the scene of the tenth annual International Students Weekend, under the sponsorship of the school church. Eleven foreign students attending five nearby colleges were the guests of the school and led various panel discussions, group meetings and worship services in which many of the students also participated.

The program opened on Friday evening, with informal discussions in the halls and continued on Saturday with morning, afternoon, and evening panel discussions on the conference theme: "For the Healing of the Nations." Two of the guests were speakers at the regular Sunday morning worship service in Russell Sage Chapel and the program was concluded in the late afternoon.

The Rev. Benjamin R. Andrews, the school chaplain, was in charge of the affair and Miss Eleanor Davis of the faculty assisted. Colleges sending representatives included: Smith, Mount Holyoke, Vassar, Russell Sage, and Skidmore, and student representatives are natives of Bolivia, Brazil, Peru, Belgium, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia and China.

The final report of the "March of Dimes" for the Infantile Paralysis Fund in this town shows that a total of \$207.75 was secured. Children of the public schools secured nearly \$100 of this amount. Robert Taylor was local chairman.

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### Schools Services

Services at the Northfield Schools on Sunday, March 4, will be led by Dr. Seymour Smith, chaplain at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, who will speak in Mount Hermon Memorial Chapel at 10:30, and Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen, president-elect of Union Theological Seminary, will preach in Russell Sage Chapel at the girls' school at 11 o'clock. There will be communion services at both schools in the afternoon.

On Sunday, March 11, Dr. William E. Park will be the speaker at the morning service at Mount Hermon School and there will be a musical vespers service in the afternoon. At the Northfield School for Girls the service that morning will be led by Dr. Kenneth Irving Brown, president of Denison University in Granville, O. Dr. Brown will also address a meeting of the Northfield faculty at 3 o'clock that afternoon.

### Gratifying Report

The recent annual meeting of the Western Massachusetts Companies which own and control the output of electricity hereabouts have recently held their annual meeting and election. The various reports indicate a prosperous year with a net income of \$190,000 greater than the year previous. During the year 1944, stockholders have received a dividend of \$1.60 per share. There are 10,980 stockholders.

### Winchester Has Fire

The two-story, 12-room Strand Hotel at Winchester, N. H., was practically destroyed Wednesday morning, February 21, with a loss of about \$10,000 and which resulted in the death of one employee, who was suffocated before he had a chance to escape as others did. The hotel was in the center of the town along the Ashuelot River. Firemen fought the blaze in cold freezing weather.

### Town Topics

Mrs. Allen H. Wright is enjoying a visit with her daughter and family, Maj. and Mrs. Ernest Leavitt at Arlington, Va.

The local troop of Boy Scouts are again at the paper salvage. They are getting a large accumulation which will be sold to the mills for the benefit of their treasury.

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### Town Topics

Frank W. Anderson has been re-appointed as the gypsy moth agent for this town by the Selectmen and from the infestations which have been seen, he will have a big job on his hands.

The Ice Carnival which was to have been held on February 10 and then postponed to the 24th will probably go "by the boards." Weather conditions have not favored such an event and the rink not in perfection for use.

The Girl Scout party which was to have been held February 22 is now scheduled for Saturday evening, March 3, in the Town Hall.

The Sacred concert of the Northfield Schools is scheduled for Sunday, May 13, with a rendition both in Northfield and at Mount Hermon.

Sgt. Aiden French and his wife are visiting for a short time, with his sister, Mrs. William A. Shattuck of Maple Street. Sgt. French is in the infantry at Fort Meade, Md.

Henry A. Johnson of Parker Avenue visited his son, Robert, at Camp Croft, S. C., last week. He reports Robert as enjoying his training experiences.

Murray Pallam, machinist mate at Floyd Bennett Field, spent a few days recently at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pallam of Birnum Road.

The members of the Friends of Servicemen were guests of Mrs. E. M. Powell at her home Wednesday evening, the 28th, for a meeting to consider plans and work for the future. Letters from servicemen were read.

### His 99th Birthday

George C. Stebbins, the well-known hymn writer and singer, who resides at 83 High Street, Catskill, N. Y., observed his 99th birthday Tuesday, February 27, and received many greetings and cards. He was a part of Northfield in the experiences of its past religious life and was a frequent and constant visitor. He united with the local Congregational Church and maintains his membership with it. It's not too late to send him a message.

### CLASSIFIED

For Sale—Black winter coat, persian lamb, collar 42; black spring coats; Navy silk coat; Lace evening dress; Georgette dresses, 36-38; Slippers, nearly new 7A; other garments. Write Clothes, Box 244, East Northfield.

3-2-p

For Sale—Six pups, not thoroughbred at \$3 each. Price more after March 3. Apply H. C. Ruhl, Ashuelot Road.

3-2-p

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